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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/514,423      | 02/28/2000  | Michael John Bryant  | P30213US            | 8728             |

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EXAMINER

LE, THANH TAM T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2839

DATE MAILED: 07/31/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/514,423

Applicant(s)

BRYANT ET AL.

Examiner

Thanh-Tam T. Le

Art Unit

2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 June 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-54 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-11 and 21-53 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 12-19 and 54 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3, 9 6) ☐ Other:

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Election/Restrictions***

1. Claims 1-11 and 21-53 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in Paper No. 14.

Applicant's election with traverse of Group I in Paper No. 14 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that a search of the subject matter of all of the claims together would not be a serious burden on the Examiner. This is not found persuasive because:

Group I, figure 1 shows a female cable insert,

Group II, figure 2 shows another female cable insert,

Group III, figure 3, shows a male cable insert, and

Group IV, figure 4, shows a male transitioning insert.

These require a different search.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

In MPEP, 803.01, under Guidelines section states that "for purposes of the initial requirement, a serious burden on the examiner may be *prima facie* shown if the examiner shows by appropriate explanation of separate classification, or separate status in the art, or a different field of search as defined in MPEP 808.02.

***Claim Objections***

2. Claims 12 and 15-17 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 12, line 3 and claim 15, line 2, "respective pins" lack an antecedent basis.

Claim 15, line 3, "respective receiving sockets" should be changed --the respective receiving sockets--.

Claim 16, "projecting pins" should be changed --the projecting pins--.

Claim 16, line 2 "respective cable conductors" should be changed -- the respective cable conductors--.

Claim 17, line 4, " a respective cable conductors" should be changed -- the respective cable conductors--.

Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 12-19 and 54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kailus (4,629,269).

Kailus, figure 1, discloses an electric cable insert for removably electrically connecting a cable having multiple conductors (28) to a mating receptacle having a plurality projecting pins (20). The insert comprising:

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- a plurality of receiving sockets (A, attachment) for receiving respective pins on the mating receptacle,
- a sealing gland (18) having a plurality of bores therethrough. Each of the cable conductors passing through a respective one of the bores in the sealing gland,
- means (26) for electrically connecting the cable conductors to respective pins, and
- means for compressing the sealing gland so as to seal the insert from the environment.

Regarding claim 13, the means for compressing the sealing gland comprises:

- a housing (14) with an internal cavity for the sealing gland fitted within the cavity, and
- a driver (19) secured to the housing and compressively engaging the sealing gland with the housing cavity.

Regarding claim 14, the housing includes:

- a side wall (B, attachment), and
- a driver surface includes a retaining groove (C, attachment) therein. The driver is secured to the housing by a crimp in the side wall of the housing pressed into the retaining groove in the driver surface.

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Regarding claim 15, the housing has an end with a plurality of orifices (D, attachment) therethrough. Each of the pins projects through a respective one of the orifices in the housing end for connecting to the mating receptacle.

Regarding claim 16, the receiving sockets include the projecting pins for connection to respective cable conductors.

Regarding claim 17, the means for electrically connecting the cable conductors to the respective receiving sockets comprises crimp/socket contacts (26) having a socket on one end for sliding onto the receiving socket pin and a deformable portion on the opposite end for crimping to an end of a respective cable conductor.

Regarding claim 18, a contact header (17) disposed within the housing cavity for maintaining a spaced relationship between the receiving sockets. Each of the receiving sockets passing through the contact header.

Regarding claim 19, the receiving sockets include threads (E, attachment) engaging the contact header for securing the receiving sockets to the contact header.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

5. Claim 20 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

None of the reference discloses the sealing gland includes nipples on its surface, the contact header and the driver each have corresponding counterbores in their surface for receiving respective nipples on the sealing gland.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


### ***Conclusion***

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanh-Tam T. Le whose telephone number is (703) 306-5711. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus can be reached on (703) 308-3119. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722 for regular communications and (703) 308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.

TL  
July 29, 2002

  
BRIAN SIRCUS  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 200